

NEWPORT PAGNELL RURAL DISTRICT

A N N U A L    R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1940.

Interim Report

Section A

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	...	...	61,686
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	4,320
Rateable Value	...	...	£ 58,797
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	£ 232

Vital Statistics for 1939

Total Births	....	...	195
Males Legitimate	...	...	100
" Illegitimate	...	...	1
Females Legitimate	...	...	91
" Illegitimate	.....	...	3

<u>Still Births</u> , Total	...	...	9
Males	...	...	1
Females	...	...	8

<u>Deaths</u> , Total	...	...	152
Males	...	...	66
Females	...	...	86

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :-

Puerperal Sepsis	..	...	-
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	1

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :-

Males	...	...	4
Females	...	...	3
All legitimate			

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	24
Males	...	...	9
Females	...	...	15

Deaths from :-

Measles (all ages)	...	...	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	Nil
Diarrhoea ( under 2 years of age)			Nil

Section B

EVACUATION

A Hostel for unbilleteable children was established at High Street, Olney in September, 1940.

There is accommodation for 40 children.

The Staff consists of a Superintendent-Clerk, Matron, Helper and Cook.

The Medical attention has been given by your Medical Officer.

When the Hostel was first opened, owing to the absence of a Sick Bay at Wolverton as proposed, cases of Scabies, Impetigo, Ringworm etc. had to be admitted.

The difficulty of securing effective isolation of such cases was minimised by the Ministry's provisions for treatment for cases of Scabies at Harcourt House, near Leighton Buzzard. Notwithstanding the difficulties referred to I am glad to report that no case of cross infection occurred.

The provision of the Hostel provides a most useful service and relieves the foster-parents of much trouble and inconvenience. This also applies to cases of difficult children, many of which have been admitted.

## Section C                      WATER

The scheme for the extension of the water supply to Castlethorpe has been completed, but the supply to Hanslope has not yet been completed owing to the difficulty of obtaining pumps for the boosting station.

Both sources of supply have been satisfactory both in quantity and quality during the year.

157 new connections have been made.

### Analysis

The water from the Olney Source has been analysed several times during the year. The Reports of the Analyst have been satisfactory except that of one sample taken during flood in November. This Report showed that the water was unsatisfactory as regards bacterial purity. After the Report a Chlorinating Plant was installed and put into action. A sample taken in December, when the water was still high, proved very satisfactory.

### Drainage and Sewerage

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Schemes referred to in previous Reports are, by the Ministry's instructions, suspended until the conclusion of the War.

Special attention has been given, and will continue to be given, to the cleansing of the sewer ditches throughout the District.

### Scavenging

The various scavenging schemes have operated well. The work has increased owing to the increased population due to evacuation.

## Section D                      HOUSING

12 Houses have been completed under the Housing Schemes, 8 at Olney and 4 at Castlethorpe. All other schemes have been postponed.

Owing to the influx of evacuees and to difficulty in obtaining accommodation, a number of houses which had been condemned but not demolished have been re-opened under licence. Reasonable repairs were carried out and the houses made watertight before re-occupation. The licences issued are reviewed every 6 months.

Since the commencement of the War the population of the area has increased by at least 25 per cent. Not only has evacuation taken place under the Government Scheme, but also a large number of people from bombed areas have sought refuge in the District. Owing to this increase steps to deal with overcrowding have only been taken in extreme cases.

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the Year

- (1) a. Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) - ..... 422
- b. No. of inspections made for the purpose 802
- (2) a. No. of dwellinghouses (included under sub-heading (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 - ..... 81
- (3) No. of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..... 16
- (4) No. of dwellinghouses (excluding those referred to under preceeding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation - ..... 94

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of formal notices

No. of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .... 103

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs .... 6

(2) No. of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices ..

(a) By owners ..... 6

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil

New Buildings

During the year the erection of new houses has been considerably curtailed. Owing to the influx of residents from bombed areas a large number of small additions and the provision of increased sanitary accommodation to houses have been carried out.

Section E

During the year special attention has been given to securing as sanitary conditions as possible at all premises in the District at which meat and other foods are prepared for sale.

Section F INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Table 1

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during Year 1940.

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	17	16	
Scarlet Fever	11	8	
Pneumonia	5	-	
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2	
Cerebro Spinal Fever	3	1	
Erysipelas	7	-	
Measles	233	-	
Whooping Cough	34	-	



### Diphtheria

The cases notified occurred in the following Parishes :-

	Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital
Olney	10	9
Wavendon	1	1
Ravenstone	1	1
Woburn Sands	1	1
Lathbury	1	1
Moulsoe	1	1
Clifton Reynes	1	1
Hanslope	1	1
	<hr/> 17	<hr/> 16

### Scarlet Fever

	Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital
Shenley Church End	2	2
Stoke Goldington	1	-
Woburn Sands	1	-
Little Brickhill	1	1
Loughton	1	1
Old Bradwell	1	1
Lathbury	1	1
Cold Brafild	1	1
Castlethorpe	1	1
Weston Underwood	1	1
	<hr/> 11	<hr/> 8

### Pneumonia

	Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital
Castlethorpe	2	-
Hanslope	1	-
Hardmead	1	-
Little Brickhill	1	-
	<hr/> 5	<hr/> -

### Puerperal Pyrexia

	Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital
Woolstone	1	1
Old Bradwell	1	1
	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 2

### Cerebro-Spinal Fever

	Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital
Castlethorpe	1	-
Olney	1	1
Shenley Church End	1	-
	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 1

Erysipelas

	Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital
Hanslope	1	-
Olney	5	-
Woburn Sands	1	-
	<hr/> 7	<hr/> -

Whooping Cough

	Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital
Woburn Sands	29	-
Wavendon	1	-
Castlethorpe	2	-
Bow Brickhill	2	-
	<hr/> 34	<hr/> -

Measles

	Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital
Sherington	5	-
Ravenstone	3	-
Woolstone	6	-
Astwood	5	-
Lathbury	2	-
Chicheley	1	-
Great Linford	1	-
Filgrave with Tyringham	8	-
Milton Keynes	8	-
Hardmead	1	-
Olney	94	-
Emberton	14	-
Woughton	1	-
Haversham	2	-
Weston Underwood	4	-
Warrington	2	-
Lavendon	6	-
Old Bradwell	17	-
Cold Brafield	2	-
Loughton	22	-
Newton Blossomville	3	-
Hanslope	8	-
Shenley Church End	16	-
Woburn Sands	1	-
Stoke Goldington	1	-
	<hr/> 233	<hr/> -

Table 11

DISEASE	Diphth- eria		Scarlet Fever		Pneu- monia		Puer- peral Pyrexia		Cerebro Spinal Fever		Erysi- pelas		Measles		Whooping Cough	
Age Period	Notifi- cations	Admitted Hospital	N.	A. to H.	N.	A. to H.	N.	A. to H.	N.	A. to H.	N.	A. to H.	N.	A. to H.	N.	A. to H.
Under 1 yr.													5		1	
1 - 2 "											1		11		2	
2 - 3 "													20		2	
3 - 4 "			1	1									21		1	
4 - 5 "													19		1	
5 - 10 "	8	7	4	3					1	1			116		24	
10 - 15 "	3	3	3	1									25		2	
15 - 20 "	1	1									1		7			
20 - 35 "	2	2	1	1			1	1	1		1		7			
35 - 45 "	2	2	2	2	1				1		1					
45 - 65 "	1	1			1		1	1			3		2		1	
Over 65 "					3											
Total	17	16	11	8	5	-	2	2	3	1	7	-	233	-	34	-

Table 111

TUBERCULOSIS - New Cases and Mortality during 1940.

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 yr.								
1 - 5 yrs.								
5 - 10 "								
10 - 15 "		1	1					
15 - 20 "	2				1			
20 - 25 "	2							
25 - 35 "		1				1		1
35 - 45 "	1	1			1			
45 - 55 "		1						
55 - 65 "								
Over 65 "								
Total	5	4	1		2	1		1

All the Deaths had been notified.

This concludes my Report.

CHAS. H. F. BAILEY,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

5th May, 1941.